

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1-15 stand rejected.

Obviousness-type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-15 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-12 of USP 6,614,927 to Tabata.

Applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the obviousness-type double patenting rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

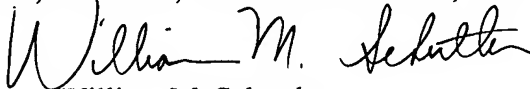
In view of the foregoing remarks, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection and an indication of allowability of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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